



We believe in a Fridley that is a safe, vibrant, friendly and stable home for families and businesses.

6431 University Avenue NE
Fridley, MN 55432
phone: 763-571-3450
www.FridleyMN.gov
e-mail: info@FridleyMN.gov

Mayor – Scott J. Lund

Councilmember-at-Large – Robert L. Barnette

Councilmember 1st Ward – James T. Saefke

Councilmember 2nd Ward – Dolores M. Varichak

Councilmember 3rd Ward – Ann R. Bolkcom

City Manager – Wally Wysopal

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Fall in Friendly Fridley

There's been non-stop action in Fridley during the last few months. Thank you for making these community events such a success. Here are a few highlights.

Fridley Fire Open House:

Over 300 guests sported fire helmets, climbed aboard engines and shook hands with some of our community heroes at the annual Fire Department open house. This kickoff to fire prevention week focused on one easy, fundamental principle



—Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives. A simple push of a button every month to test your alarms could be the difference between life and death.

- **Install.** (Every level, every bedroom and outside each sleeping area.)
- **Interconnect.** (When one sounds, they all should.)
- **Test.** (One finger—one simple push of a button.)
- **Replace.** (10 years or if they don't pass the test.)
- **Educate.** (Be familiar with the sound and have an action plan.)

Thank you to the Fridley Police and Public Works Departments for joining this day of educational fun, and to all the community members who stopped by.

Fall Recycling Drop-Off:

The Result: An amazing 503 vehicles in 4 hours!!!

Thank you to Councilmembers Ann Bolkcom and Dolores Varichak for lending a hand with unloading and sorting, and to the many volunteers and employees who made this event a success. "We received a lot of positive comments," says Kay Qualley, Environmental Planner. "We even took in more than 90 mattresses, an item that is challenging for proper disposal."



Our next City recycling drop-off will be in the spring. Watch for details!

Springbrook Pumpkin Night:

Hundreds of kids, community groups and families put their pumpkin-carving skills to work in the week leading up to the main event, and it was worth every gooey effort. Over 800 pumpkins lined the trails of Springbrook Nature Center to welcome ghouls of all ages and costumes to our annual Pumpkin Night in the Park.



The staff and volunteers displayed unsurpassed artistry in the black light display of sea serpents and all kinds of fantastic creatures, clearly a crowd favorite. Monsters, aliens, pirates and more could be found scattered throughout the forest.

"It was an overwhelming success, and we exceeded our previous attendance record by over 1,000 visitors," said Springbrook Director Mike Maher.

The final count? An unsurpassed 4,619 visitors!

The visual effect throughout the entire park sparked a wide-eyed look around every corner. The vast number of hands that contributed to this night is truly a tribute to our incredible community. Thank you to over 1,000 volunteers who helped out before, during and after the event, from costumed characters to carving pumpkins to cleanup and everything in between. We could not have done it without you. ■



Savanna, Grace and Arianna giggle along the character trails

Upcoming Springbrook Nature Center Activities



Brunch with Nature Santa

Tuesday, December 16 • 10 a.m. - Noon
\$5/person

Ring in the "Noon" Year!

Wednesday, December 31 • 10 a.m. - Noon
\$4/person

(Children age 2 & under are FREE)

Celebrate with indoor & outdoor activities, live animals, snacks and more!

Registration required: 763-572-3588
100 85th Ave, Fridley



Pictured left to right: Kyle Birkholz and Bob Crim

Fred Lee’s Team!

Meet the leadership of Fridley Liquor: Kyle Birkholz and Bob Crim! Together, they lead a team of about 25 employees at both liquor store locations.

Kyle serves as the Fridley Liquor Operations Manager, and has been an employee of the City of Fridley and Fridley Liquor for 25 years. A native to the area, Kyle graduated from Spring Lake Park High School and the University of Minnesota (B.S. in Economics, 1990). Kyle led Fridley Liquors through two store relocations, and two store renovations and openings, including the 2013 opening of the new store in the current Fridley Market location. “Providing a strong revenue source for the City, while offering exceptional customer service and quality products” is his vision for Fridley Liquor.

Bob (also known as the “Wine Guy”) joined our staff last June as Assistant Manager. Bob’s Wine Guy status is official, having earned the credential of “Certified Specialist of Wine” and has conducted more than 150 private tastings over the course of his career. His love of wine may stem from his early years in the Sonoma wine country. He comes to the City with 13 years wholesale and 10 years retail experience. So what’s the Wine Guy’s favorite wine? Bob says there’s too many to name just one, but the best wine he ever tried was a 1830 Madeira. ■



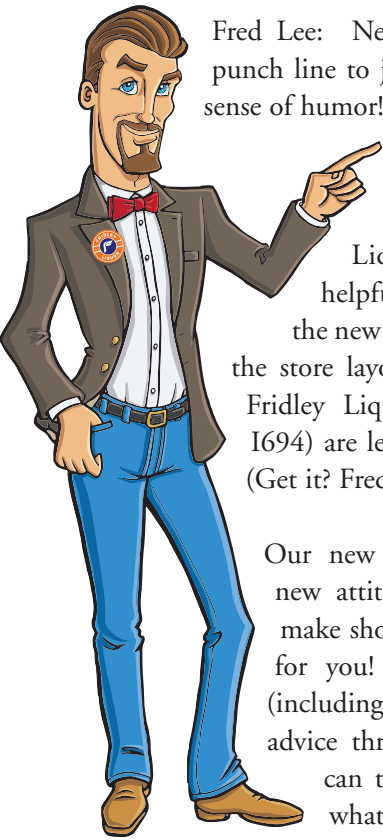
15% Off



Total Non-Sale Purchase
Valid at Fridley Liquor

No limits. No other discounts apply. Good through Dec. 31, 2014

Meet Fred Lee Fridley Liquor: New Look, New Attitude



Fred Lee: Never remembers the punch line to jokes but has a Rye sense of humor!

Stop in and see changes at Fridley Liquor! From our helpful, expert staff to the new comfort and ease of the store layout, the changes at Fridley Liquor (University & I694) are led by Mr. Fred Lee. (Get it? Fred Lee....Frid-ley!)

Our new look matches our new attitude: We want to make shopping easy and fun for you! In-the-Know staff (including Fred, look for his advice throughout the store) can tell you what’s new, what’s hot and what’s on sale. New signage will

help you find your favorite brands and so will we. “Gather” in the back of our store for periodic wine tastings and other special events. Relive Fridley history with wall photographs that remember our roots. Experience shopping the way it should be with great service, selection and prices.

Did you know? Both Fridley Liquor stores are owned by the City, and every purchase helps reinvest in your neighborhood. Proceeds are used for things like new fire engines, park improvements, street repairs and keeping taxes low.

Fred Lee is busy mixing up his favorite blends, featuring store firsts and negotiating you a fair deal with special offers. Fridley Liquor has added over 1,200 new products since the first of the year with additional products being added every week. Follow



Fred on Facebook and Twitter @FridleyLiquor to see what he finds around town and brings back to your favorite store.

Check out our Grand Re-Opening December 1 - 6. There will be special tasting events each day as well as prize drawings to recognize your loyalty. We are looking forward to an exciting future and continuously improving to meet your needs and wants. During the month of December, receive an additional 15% of your holiday purchases with the attached coupon below.

Sign up online for our tasting club or drop off the completed form below at either of our stores, and receive the latest updates on upcoming events, product specials, and new releases. Please visit www.fridleymn.gov/fridleyliquor to sign up.

Expert Advice. Great Selection. Two Convenient Locations. ■



FRIDLEY TASTING CLUB

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

E-Mail: _____

Please return to either
Fridley Liquor Store location.



Cielo Apartments: A Unique Name for a Unique Style

Construction is underway on a three-building project that is unlike any in Fridley today. Named Cielo, meaning “the Sky” or “Heaven” in Italian, this project reflects the art of architecture that will add an element of beauty to the area.

For nearly seven years, there have been discussions, work and negotiations on a future development between 58th Avenue and 61st Avenue, on the east side of University Avenue. The community called for a better variety of housing. Fridley is strong in affordable housing, and there was a call to balance that with market-competitive housing that offers additional amenities. Cielo will include features such as inside parking, fitness facilities, a private theater and even a skyway to connect the three buildings.

Plans for Cielo include two large buildings (102 units each), an outdoor amenity area, and a smaller building (48 units). They will be four stories high—indoor parking on the street level and three levels of housing above. According to the developer, each building will take “a year to build and a year to fill.” At this time, the entire development is estimated to take six years to complete, but if the market responds faster, that timeframe could shorten significantly. These apartments are designed to cater to those who are looking for added amenities and a minimum income qualification will apply to future applicants.

Adding to the beauty of the complex, the previous chain link fence will be replaced with ornamental aluminum fencing with brick bollards, similar to what exists on the west side of University. These new

apartments will also be separated from the existing development to the east with an architecturally designed privacy fence that is consistent north to south. Work on both of these fences will likely start in the spring.

A rental office will be onsite beginning sometime next year.

What else is new in Community Development?

Northern Stacks: The first of many buildings has walls up and you can begin to see the scale of the buildings and how they will be placed. The first building is 213,000 square feet and in an industrial warehouse complex. A second building will begin very soon and is approximately 135,000 square feet. This building will to be more of an office showroom in nature.

Meetings are underway with the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development and the Metropolitan Council to discuss the next round of Contamination Clean-Up Grant applications for this project.

Fridley Market: Duluth Trading Co. is now open! Stop in and check out their unique line of apparel and accessories specifically designed for trade workers and those who love the outdoors.

Renovations for the new Teppanyaki Grill are underway. And lastly, Fridley Liquor is celebrating their grand re-opening December 1-6. See article on page 2 for details. ■



“This is a sign of progress,” said Scott Hickok, Community Development Director, at the groundbreaking ceremony on November 5 attended by Mayor Lund, City officials and City staff.

Who Do I Call?

Fridley is full of great resources and staff to answer everyday questions you may have, but it can be hard to know who to call or what department. Here’s a guide to take some of the mystery out of City Hall.

Directions to City Hall & General Questions.....763-571-3450

- Public Safety:**
- EmergencyAlways dial 9-1-1
 - Non-Emergency Dispatch763-427-1212
 - Non-Emergency Police Reports can also be submitted online at www.FridleyMN.gov under Public Safety-Police-Online Police Reporting
 - Poison Control.....1-800-222-1222
 - Fire Code763-572-3613 (Fire Code includes questions about sprinkler/fire alarms, electrical hazards, blocked or unmarked exits, storage of flammable/combustible liquids or fire extinguishers.)
 - Fire Prevention Education763-572-3613
 - Crime Prevention Education, Neighborhood Watch.....763-572-3629

- Housing and Community Development:**
- Utility Billing763-572-3529
 - Code Enforcement763-572-3592 (Questions such as: Where can I stack wood? How high can I build a fence?)
 - Rental Housing763-572-3616 (licensing, fees, inspections, conditions, how to rent out your home)
 - Building Inspections, Permits & To Verify a Licensed/Registered Contractor ...763-572-3604
 - Planning & Zoning, New Development763-572-3592
 - Remodeling, Housing Rehab Programs, Preventing Foreclosures763-572-3591
 - Sign Permits763-572-3595
 - Environmental Concerns.....763-572-3594 (recycling/disposing of materials, building a rain garden, protecting our rivers and lakes)

Report a street light out, potholes, or other street, alley or boulevard repairs.....763-572-3552
You can submit a request online at www.FridleyMN.gov under the Street Division.

- Recreation (Programs, Classes, Events, Park Rentals, Sports)763-572-3570
- Senior Center (Events, Directions, Classes, Meals, Chores & More).....763-502-5150
- Springbrook Nature Center.....763-572-3588

Not sure who to call? Our main number can always direct you to the right place: 763-571-3450. Monday-Friday 8 a.m.- 4:30 p.m. ■



Remembering our Strength, our Perseverance, our History

Tornadoes of '65: Call for Stories!

2015 marks the 50th anniversary of Fridley’s “Longest Night” and we want to hear from you. Were you in Fridley when the tornadoes hit? Have your parents passed down stories of that night? Do you have pictures?

Share your story. Help us honor those we lost, neighbors who worked together, leaders who rebuilt our community, and heroes who worked through the night to keep us safe. Contact Raquel, Fridley’s Communication Specialist, at 763-572-3505, or by email at Raquel.Strand@FridleyMN.gov. ■

Give Your Driveway A Low-Salt Diet

Doctors tell us to stick to a low-salt diet. Our lakes and streams would like Fridley residents to follow the same advice. Here is what you should know when applying salt to driveways, sidewalks and other slippery winter surfaces.

Shoveling and chipping away ice is best. Shovel first. The more snow and ice you remove manually, the less salt you will have to use. Break up ice with an ice scraper and then decide if application of a de-icer or sand is necessary for safety.

Less is More. More salt does not mean more melting. Use a small amount and give it time to work. Excess piles of salt dumped carelessly and not swept up after the ice melts “disappear” into groundwater or stormwater. Sand is better, but near storm sewers can create unwanted sediment in water. Both should be used sparingly.

Roger and Jeanne Lukkarila: The Helping Hands of Springbrook

“Why didn’t the skeleton cross the road?” asks Roger Lukkarila. “Because he didn’t have any guts!” If you were one of the thousands who attended Pumpkin Night in the Park this fall at the Springbrook Nature Canter, you may have caught one of Roger’s jokes while sitting by the campfire. He was still chatting and smiling at 10:30 that night when he and Jeanne put the fire out—the end to a 15-hour day of lending a hand.

“Springbrook is a little gem in the middle of the City,” says Jeanne. “I just love being here. It is such a nice atmosphere and the people are amazing.”

Just over 5 years ago, Roger and Jeanne moved to the Twin Cities from Duluth. They both love to hike. While exploring the various trails around the cities, they discovered Springbrook and have been regular volunteers ever since. Roger enjoys working with his hands, especially woodworking, and Jeanne loves working with children. They are both crafty people, and the Springbrook Nature Center staff is very grateful to have their talents available.

“Roger and Jeanne graciously give their time to help wherever they are needed,” says Mike Maher, Springbrook Nature Center Director. “Like many of our regular volunteers, they are like family to our staff and a familiar face to our visitors, always greeting them with a smile.”

During the school year, Roger and Jeanne help out every Tuesday with Playful Polliwogs, a time when kids ages 2-5 along with their parents get hands-on learning about animal activity and nature specific to the center. Roger and Jeanne help the kids as they explore the insides of pumpkins, pet a snake or make a craft.

They also help with the Center’s busy work, organizing tool cabinets and straightening the office area, things the staff may not have time for. Then there are the special events, Pumpkin Night and Spring



Fling, when Roger and Jeanne join hundreds of other volunteers to make it special. “We started working on this year’s Pumpkin Night about two months before,” explains Roger who helped create and build an incredible Hobbit House for the event. He and Jeanne also led volunteer groups in carving the 850 pumpkins that lit up the night.

Jeanne, originally from the Twin Cities, first met Roger over the phone. She was an editor here and he was a printer in Superior, Wisconsin working for the same company. When the printing company purchased a 4-color press, the Twin Cities staff came to Superior to see it. They met in person and the rest is history. They have been married for 45 years. Roger and Jeanne’s love for each other, love of nature and love of the community shines bright.

“I speak for all of the Springbrook volunteers when I say that we are so happy to be here. The staff gives 150% of their time and it feels good to be part of such a wonderful, inclusive community,” says Jeanne. She points out a memorial plaque that reads: I would go to a place where the birds sing. It is because of people like Roger and Jeanne that Springbrook is a place where we can all take a breath and listen to nature sing. Thank you for all you do. ■



Creek Ridge Neighborhood

Where Old Fridley Meets New Fridley

The oldest remaining home in Fridley, built in 1919, stands proud on a quiet corner in the Creek Ridge neighborhood. Although not a big neighborhood (nestled between Rice Creek Trail and Mississippi Street, Central Avenue and Arthur Street), Creek Ridge sure has a lot of character and history.

Simply by looking at one side of that old farmhouse, one sees post-WWI construction connected with post-WWII construction, and on that older portion sits a sealed up window that once served as a “pie safe.” Before refrigeration, even before iceboxes, homes used a pie safe to store and cool pies, breads, meats and other perishables.



Across the street, stands a Little Free Library in the yard of Betty Ann Addison, and she will be the first to tell you that it may be on her property but that library belongs to the community. “It really brings everyone together,” she says, and that may be true, but the hearts of those in this neighborhood also play a role. An amazing number of residents in this community serve in the public sector: there are two policemen, a teacher, a City Hall employee and a 15-year school board member, to name just a few.



Betty Ann does her part for the community as well. She is a master gardener, the owner of a local landscaping company, and her home gardens give the neighborhood a beautiful, unique charm. “I’m the oldest,” she says of her craft. “I have to make every day count.” And that she does. Betty Ann has lived in her Creek Ridge home for 50 years and grows plants in her yard that most people wouldn’t believe possible in the harsh Minnesota winters. She breeds vegetation from every continent, places as far as Japan, Bulgaria, Finland and Korea. “I treat the garden like a library,”



Betty Ann Addison brightens the neighborhood with her exotic plants and teaching gardens.

explains Betty Ann. “I hold on to all these rare plants that would otherwise die.” Her pride is her hardy evergreen rhododendrons that flower in a variety of amazing colors in spring and provide beauty all-year long.

These gardens are not the only unique aspect in Creek Ridge. The north end of the neighborhood was once home to Rice Creek School. In 1985, that school was torn down and replaced with houses. Halfway down 66th Avenue, you can see where old Fridley meets new Fridley. Fred and Connie Bischte live in the newer portion, having moved into the area 29 years ago when these houses were built. “It’s a very close neighborhood because many of us moved in at the same time,” says Fred. “We were all in the same boat.” Neighbors still reminisce about Grandpa and Grandma Cockrin, the original owners of that 1919 house on the corner, and remember the miniature horses that the next owner used to hitch to a cart and prance down the streets. Years from now, they will likely also tell about the amazing gardens of Betty Ann and her teachings about exotic plants. The rich history of Fridley certainly lives strong in the Creek Ridge Neighborhood. ■



Block Captains Karen McCulloch, Sue Krichen & Julie Horak set the tone for togetherness and fun in Creek Ridge.

Winter Break Youth Trips

Grades K-5: School’s Out Events

- December 29: Tropics Waterpark & Adventures Playground
- December 30: Snow Tubing at Green Acres
- January 2: Children’s Museum
- January 19: Snow Tubing at Elm Creek



Transportation provided to/from Fridley Community Center
6085 7th Street, East Entrance,
Meet in the Zone

All events are \$23 each.
Time is 9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Extended hours available:
7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., \$8 addtl.

Sign up online at
www.FridleyMN.gov
or 763-572-3570

Attention Softball Players and Other Adult Sports Leagues!

Start putting together your teams and sponsors now for spring leagues – sign ups begin in February!
For more information, call Fridley Recreation at 763-572-3570.

Does your neighborhood have a story? Share it with us!

Call the City Communications Specialist at 763-572-3505 or Raquel.Strand@FridleyMN.gov.

You can take a look at a map of all Fridley neighborhoods at www.FridleyMN.gov/maps/general



Anoka County Puts Your Safety First

Anoka County now sets a new standard in how they share public safety information. An unprecedented level of integration will exist throughout the County’s 11 law enforcement agencies, 15 fire agencies, the county jail and the Central Communications (911) which dispatches for all 21 communities. This system, a first for the state of Minnesota and a national model, went live in November.

“We are excited that for the first time in history, all agencies within the Anoka County region will be integrated on the same public data system,” says Tony Palumbo, Anoka County Attorney and Chair of the Joint Law Enforcement Council.

This new system replaces an outdated 30-year-old computer aided dispatch (CAD) and a 14-year-old police records system. Let’s put this into proper context: In 1984, when the previous system went into service, we didn’t have smartphones. We had the state-of-the-art Motorola DynaTAC. (Remember that large symbolic phone Michael Douglas wielded in “Wall Street”?) We played video games on the Atari, and Apple first introduced the Macintosh to compete with the popular Commodore 64. Times have changed.

The \$6+ million dollar upgrade bridges a gap between police and fire. Now all first responders will receive the same information, maps and records, everything needed to give a more complete picture. Seconds matter in an emergency. This system will send key information to those en route to an emergency – specifics such as floor plans, hydrant locations, past records, business key holders and more.

“The system’s overarching goal is to provide our law enforcement officers and firefighters with the information they require at the time and place they need it to keep our citizens safe,” explains Don Abbott, Director of Public Safety for Fridley.

The system is the result of a team effort among the County and cities that began several years ago. With fire, law enforcement, jail and 911 staff all on the same page, there will be drastic improvements to your safety and the safety of those responding to crimes and emergencies. ■

Train Transport Takes Center Stage at Safety Training

Clearly a popular topic—it’s all over the media: oil trains. Fridley is front and center every time an oil train story comes out. Why?

Fridley is unique in that we have major highways, pipelines and active rails crossing our City, home to over 27,000 people and hundreds of businesses. Any number of hazardous materials, not just oil, moves through Fridley on a daily basis. This has been true for many years. But now we have a new player on the scene, Bakken crude oil coming out of North Dakota. Trains transporting crude oil increased 102% last year, according to Paul Hester, an emergency response consultant with BNSF railroad. On any given day in Fridley, there may be up to 8 oil trains traveling through the City. The substance may change, but the dangers are nothing new.

During the early morning hours of July 16, 2011, the blare of sirens made a path to Rice Creek. Two locomotives and 17 railroad cars derailed. These cars carried corn, resulting in a relatively quick and safe cleanup. But what if...?

What if those railcars were transporting oil?
It is on your mind—it is on our mind, too.

Here are a few railroad facts:

- In 2013, there were 6 derailments with spills in the United States.
- It is 16x safer to transport hazardous materials by rail than roads.
- There has never been an oil train derailment in Fridley.
- 99.97% of all rail industry shipments of hazardous materials reach their destination without incident.

It is our job to be ready for that .03% chance.

Training in hazardous materials in on-going at all levels of emergency response. On October 9, hazardous materials (and specifically railway oil transport) was the focus of a day-long tabletop training session at Fridley City Hall. Police, Fire and Public Works were all present, as was Homeland Security, Minnesota Pollution Control, Anoka County Emergency Management, Allina medical, the State Fire Marshal and the Minnesota Dept of Public Safety. As Kevin Reed from Minnesota Homeland Security said, “Plan for the worst. Hope for the best.”

Our number one goal is to protect you, today and tomorrow. That means assessing an emergency for both the immediate physical and potential danger in



Director Abbott and Captain Rewitzer work together with Fire Chief Berg on immediate first steps in the event of a train derailment.

the moment, and also looking for the possible future impact, and the environmental dangers. Fridley is fortunate to have many talents, capabilities and resources within our first responders and City-owned equipment. We also benefit from partnerships with other cities and county and state agencies that provide extra manpower, experience and resources. Railroads also have specialized equipment on the ready. In addition, tanker cars are built with a number of safety features (thick shields, reinforced connectors) to minimize spills even if a train derails.

In the unlikely event of a train derailment in our community, we are ready.

There will always be changes in transport, new dangers, and new safety measures to protect our community. Every situation is different; every response is different. Factors such as location, substance, weather, chemicals and more are assessed in order to determine the safest course of action in any emergency. Even crude oils can be different. Oil transporting from Canada is much less volatile than Bakken oil.

There is no single answer, no one response. So we train for them all.

“Fridley maintains an emergency plan at all times,” explains Don Abbott, Director of Public Safety. “Our Police and Fire Departments are experienced at responding to many different types of hazards. This training helps us keep those skills fresh, gives us an opportunity to check equipment and policies, and provides specific information on different current issues—in this case crude oil transport.”

This is all part of our mission to keep Fridley safe. ■





5 Questions for Your Friendly Snow Plow Driver

Minnesotans know brutal winters, deep snow and cold temps; it’s what we are famous for. We all have jobs to get to, places to drive the kids and responsibilities that can’t wait.

Jeff Jensen, Fridley Operations Manager, understands the frustrations of residents when it comes to snow removal. “Fridley plows 107 miles of city roads, 80 cul-de-sacs, 18 alleyways and dead-ends, 17 parking lots and about 16 miles of sidewalks and trails,” explains Jensen. Our 24-person snow removal team works long hours after every snowfall, but they need your help to clear roads as quickly and safely as possible. To help us all understand the city’s policies regarding snow removal, here are five commonly asked questions.

1. Why isn’t my street plowed right away?

Emergency routes are always the first priority after any snowfall. These redlines are established to ensure emergency vehicles can reach within one or two blocks of every home. After emergency routes are clear, the city is split into 11 plowing districts. Each district has 4 different starting points that rotate with each snowfall. If your street was plowed last this time, it won’t be next round.

2. Where can I park?

From November 1 through April 1, Fridley’s City Code prohibits parking on any City street between 2 a.m. and 6 a.m. In addition, there is no street parking anytime while snow removal is in progress. Vehicles left on the street slow plow drivers, risk damage to your vehicle and the plow, and incur extra costs to tow vehicles and re-plow roads. Vehicles left on the street during these times could be tagged and towed at your expense.

3. Why did my garbage container get hit? (This is our biggest obstacle every year!)

Nothing can go in the street – not garbage cans, not snow pushed off your drive, not recycling containers, nothing. City Code requires that you

keep all garbage and recycling containers in your driveways and out of the right of way, and only place these out from 5 PM the day prior to collection until 9 PM the day of collection. Please help us – it is impossible for us to navigate those big plows around thousands of garbage cans. It is also against City Code to push/shovel/blow snow onto or across city streets and boulevards. Penalties range from a formal warning up to a \$700 fine or 90 days in jail plus any City cost. Property owners are responsible for their actions or those of their contracted snow remover.

4. Why can’t my children play in the snow bank by the street?

We need your help in keeping children safe. Plows are big trucks. Sight lines can be limited at times and they need extra room to turn. For this reason, **it is very important to keep children at a safe distance.** The driver may not see a child playing in the snow drift near the street. We don’t want anyone to get hurt.

5. Is my plow driver out to get me? I just shoveled the end of my drive!

We all look out at the end of our driveway and feel this at some point. Fridley crews work hard, long hours and they do their best to split the road right down the middle. They have to go home and shovel their driveway at the end of the day, too.

With your help, snow removal this season will be quick, efficient, safe and as painless as possible. For more information on the City’s snow removal process, visit www.FridleyMN.gov/streets/snow-removal.

Did You Know?

The City of Fridley’s updated plowing routes now include certain trails in the City, generally located along County highways. If you own property adjacent to a plowed route for a trail or sidewalk, you are responsible to clean up after plowing to ensure that it is free of any ice and snow hazard. More information, including a map of plowed trails and walks, is available on the City’s website. ■



Adopt-a-Hydrant

A fire doubles in size every 60 seconds! You can save valuable time by keeping the snow clear of any fire hydrant near your home: 3 feet around and clear to the street.



Rescue a Hydrant from the cold winter snow!

Remember: 3 Feet Around and Clear to the Street
Seconds Matter - Shovel Out Your Hydrant, 3 Feet on All Sides and a Path to the Street

Don’t Forget Your Hydrant!

Fridley Community Calendar

December

- 1 Parks & Recreation Commission
- Charter Commission
- 3 Appeals Commission
- 4 Housing & Redevelopment Authority
- 8 City Council Meeting
- 17 Planning Commission
- 22 City Council Meeting
- 24 Offices close at 1:30 p.m.
- 25-26 City Offices Closed in Observance of Christmas

January

- 1 City Offices Closed in Observance of New Year’s Day
- 7 Appeals Commission
- 8 Housing & Redevelopment Authority
- 12 City Council Meeting
- Parks and Recreation Commission
- 13 Environmental Quality & Energy Commission
- 21 Planning Commission
- 26 City Council Meeting

NOTE: City Council and Commission meetings start at 7:00 p.m. Meetings are held at the Municipal Center, 6431 University Avenue NE. The public is welcome.

Hearing impaired persons who need an interpreter or other persons with disabilities who require auxiliary aids and would like to attend a meeting, should contact Roberta Collins at 763-572-3500 at least one week in advance.



Banfill Locke Holiday Gift mArt

Open Tuesday – Saturday from December 5 – 20
10am – 4pm Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays
10am – 7pm Fridays and Saturdays

The Holiday Gift mArt will include everything from felt art, jewelry, candles, knot jigs, wreaths, textiles and artwork for the wall, BLCA will be an important stop for your holiday shopping. Thirty artists from the local area will be participants in the holiday sale.

Banfill Locke Center for the Arts: 6666 East River Road, Fridley
763-574-1850



Have a Safe Holiday Season

Decorating a live tree?

- Keep it watered!
- Remove dead branches.
- Do not plug too many extension cords into the same outlet.
- Keep candles away.
- Keep lights on timers or unplug them before leaving the house or going to bed.

Celebrating?

- Do not leave burning candles unattended.
- Be aware of choking hazards with small parts on toys for infants and toddlers.
- Avoid toys with sharp edges or points for children under 8.
- Dispose of plastic wrappings immediately.
- Secure loose parts and check battery covers of all new toys.
- Beware of button batteries, including items geared towards adults that do not require safety screws/doors. Button batteries are easily swallowed and extremely harmful.

Traveling?

- Winterize your car. Check batteries, hoses, tires, belts, wipers and fluids.
- Keep a survival kit in your car: flashlight, batteries, blankets, snacks, water, gloves, boots, first aid kit, ice scraper, jumper cables and flares.

- Let someone know where you are going and when you expect to arrive.
- Do not warm up your car in the garage –pull it out first.
- When sitting in a running vehicle, open a window and make sure the exhaust is not blocked by ice or snow.
- If your vehicle stalls or gets stuck in snow, stay in your vehicle and call for help.
- Put home lights on timers when you are away to detour break-ins.

Here Comes the Cold!

- Plug space heaters directly into the wall, not an extension cord. Read safety warnings.
- Radon levels soar in winter months—test your home!
- Clear 3 feet of snow away from fire hydrants.
- Make sure the address on your home and mailbox is easy to read.
- Clear snow and ice from steps, driveway and sidewalks.
- Use salt, sand or de-icer on slippery surfaces.
- Insulate pipes where needed to prevent frozen service pipes and plumbing.
- Having trouble paying your heating bill? CenterPoint has budget plans and payment assistance programs. Contact them at 612-372-4727 to get help. ■



Step Back in Time

Holiday cheer with a 60s vibe greets you this season at the Fridley History Center. Join us for “Christmas in the 1960s”, the 3rd annual holiday exhibit presented by the Fridley Historical Society.

Everyone is invited to experience the decade of flower power, protest signs, VW vans and “Made in America” gifts. The exhibit includes room vignettes with nostalgic artifacts, including a college dorm room, family dining room, a model railroad, children’s activities, trivia and more. Refreshments will be served and admission is free.

Saturdays through December 20: 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Tuesdays through December 16: 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.
The Fridley History Museum
611 Mississippi Street.
www.fridleyhistoricalsociety.org



**Congratulations to the 2014
Fridley Hall of Fame Inductees:**
Dorothy Gargaro
Genevieve Peterson
John Swanson

The Fridley Historical Society recognizes these individuals for their contributions to the growth and success of the City of Fridley. The 11th annual inductee luncheon took place on November 1.



Changes Coming to Columbia Arena

The vacant Columbia Arena (a nostalgic sight for some, an eyesore for others) has earned a reputation for its deteriorating building and graffiti walls. It is time for a change. On October 30, the City of Fridley officially acquired these 14 acres. The plan is to go out for demolition bids in late November. The building will likely come down early next year. Fridley does not often have a chance to acquire such a large, visible area for redevelopment. The City Council and Fridley HRA will spend time over the next several months determining which of the City’s needs are best met on the site. Look for big changes to University Avenue in 2015!

winterfest

12:00 - 3:00 p.m. Saturday, January 24

Indoor and Outdoor Family Fun

Commons Park:

sleigh rides, ice games, dog sled rides, snowball launching and more!

Fridley Community Center:

Bingo, dancing, crafts, games and treats!

Keep warm and make s’mores at the huge bonfire! Join the medallion hunt for a \$100 prize!

Questions? Give us a call at 763-572-3570.

